

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44106
TELEPHONE 421-7346

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Richard Hunt, one of the most widely acclaimed young American sculptors, will be in Cleveland February 25-26 to lecture on his work, and hold a workshop for sculpture students at Case Western Reserve University and the Cleveland Institute of Art.

The lecture, which is free and open to the public, will be held Tuesday, February 25 at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of the Cleveland Institute of Art. The following day Hunt will meet with Institute and Case Western Reserve sculpture students for a series of workshop sessions.

Hunt, working with a variety of metals -- steel, aluminum, tin, copper and bronze -- has developed the art of welded sculpture into a highly personal idiom. His early works, done in the 1950s, were assemblages of industrial scrap. These were followed in the 1960s by more abstract, linear pieces. Climbing, bending, and twisting, the forms evoke plant, animal and human figures, yet appear more closely related to inner visions than to concrete representations of the physical world.

His recent sculptures utilize larger, heavier and bolder forms, and are more architectural in feeling than his previous work.

Richard Hunt was born in Chicago in 1935. At the age of 14 he enrolled in the Junior School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Eight years later, while he was still a student at the Art Institute, one of his works was purchased by the Museum of Modern Art.

Since 1955 he has been a participant in numerous exhibitions at major museums and galleries in this country and in Europe, including a one-man exhibition at

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the Cleveland Museum of Art in 1967. The first retrospective exhibition of his work was held late in 1967 at the Milwaukee Art Center. In 1971, another was held at the Museum of Modern Art and at the Art Institute of Chicago.

Among the honors Hunt has received are a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1962, and an appointment to the National Council on the Arts in 1968. In the following year, he participated in the Metropolitan Museum of Art's symposium, "The Black Artist in America."

In addition to his work as an artist, Hunt also has taught widely. He has been an instructor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and in the department of architecture and art at the University of Illinois College of Engineering in Chicago. He has been a visiting professor at the Chouinard Art School of the California Institute of the Arts in Los Angeles; at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb; and at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois.

His work is included in a number of private and public collections, among them those of the Museum of Modern Art, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Albright Knox Art Gallery, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Art Institute of Chicago.

The Cleveland Museum of Art owns two of Hunt's pieces, Forms Carried Aloft, Number 2 (1960), and Fragmented Figure (1963).

Richard Hunt's visit to Cleveland is in conjunction with "Sculpture Directions '75," a year-long program on sculpture and its history sponsored jointly by Case Western Reserve University and the Cleveland Museum of Art, in cooperation with the Cleveland Institute of Art and other Cleveland area arts organizations.

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For additional information, please contact Frances Stamper, The Cleveland Museum of Art, 11150 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106; (216) 421-7340.